



**BEDFORD, Mass.--(BUSINESS WIRE)--Jan. 3, 2000**

Spire Corporation (NASDAQ:SPIR) announced that it has completed the sale of substantially all the assets of Spire's optoelectronics business segment for \$12,950,000 in cash to Methode Massachusetts, LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Methode Electronics, Inc. (NASDAQ:METHA).

With the transfer of its optoelectronics business to Methode, Spire has strengthened its financial ability to better pursue its Solar and Biomedical businesses," said Roger G. Little, President of Spire.

Founded in 1969, Spire Corporation is a leading supplier of equipment for assembling terrestrial photovoltaic modules from solar cells. In addition, Spire Corporation is a leader in the improvement of implantable medical devices through proprietary surface treatments.

Methode Electronics, headquartered in Chicago, Illinois, manufactures component devices for Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEMs) of information processing and networking equipment, voice and data communications systems, consumer electronics, automobiles, aerospace vehicles and industrial equipment. Products employ electrical, electronic and fiber optic technologies in communications data links, interconnections and controls.

Certain matters discussed in this news release may be forward-looking statements subject to risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from those indicated in the forward-looking statements. Such risks and uncertainties include, but are not limited to, the risk of dependence on government agencies and other third parties for funding contract research and services, as well as other factors described in the Company's filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

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